

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

The paragraph beginning at page 2, line 13 is amended as follows:

It is an object of one aspect of the present invention to overcome the problem of configuring apparatus for accessing a service by providing an apparatus which can automatically configure itself and can be automatically and remotely configured.

The paragraph beginning at page 2, line 18 is amended as follows:

Thus in accordance with the first aspect the present invention is concerned with communication apparatus for interfacing to a communication network in order to access a service wherein unique identification information which is stored in a memory is transmitted over the network to a remote configuration system the first time the apparatus is connected to the network. The remote configuration system determines appropriate configuration data which is transmitted back to the apparatus and stored for future use. The configuration data will be used thereafter by the apparatus in order to configure the apparatus for accessing the service. The remote configuration system automatically determines subsequent configuration data which it transmits to the communication apparatus. This is stored for future use by the communication apparatus.

The paragraph beginning at page 4, line 13 is amended as follows:

The interconnection between the apparatus and the service can be made via any form of network. In one embodiment a communication connection made to the apparatus comprises at least one ISDN line. In such an arrangement a D channel can be used for permanent connection between the apparatus and the network whilst the B channels can be used as necessary for communications. In this way the D channel can allow for permanent monitoring of the apparatus by a remote system such as the service provider or some form of management system. Further,

Filing Date: April 14, 2000
Title: AN APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CONTROLLING ACCESS TO A SERVICE OVER A COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

~~subsequent configuration data can be sent to the apparatus from the remote configuration system in order to change the configuration of the apparatus for subsequent communications. The subsequent configuration data can be sent using the D channel at any time without the user having to make a connection using the B channels. The subsequent configuration can either be sent as a result of a request from the user or it can be automatically sent.~~

The paragraph beginning at page 6, line 24 is amended as follows:

Configuration of data initially set in the apparatus, or configuration data obtained remotely in accordance with the first aspect of the present invention can determine the processing carried out on the gathered information.

The paragraph beginning at page 16, line 1 is amended as follows:

In a conventional network arrangement when a service provider provides a service over the internet to a user, it gathers statistics (i.e. information on events caused by access made by the user) and processes this raw statistical data into more useful summary data. This conventional method of gathering statistical information requires the service provider to continuously retrieve data from the user which stores the raw gathered statistics locally. If a user required summary information it was necessary previously to request this information from the service provider who would then download it to the user. The One embodiment of the present invention overcomes the limitations of the prior art by providing for local processing of the gathered statistics so that this information can be made available locally and can be periodically uploaded to the service provider. Thus, the amount of information which needs to be passed up to the service provider is reduced, the processing load of the service provider is reduced, and processed statistics are readily available to the user.
